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A SAD ONE
WAS SHOT.
SAVED VALENCAY'S FORTUNE
CHARLES T. WARFIELD DEAD
THE WELL KNOWN SALESMAN
IS NOT ENOUGH
ITS A CASE FOR A JURY
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The Rural Mail Carrier

Farmers Show Appreciation of the Conditions Faced by the Carrier—Commodore Hall Has Speed Record—He is a Fan.

The modern up to date world, the people become accustomed to the conveniences and the general progress of the times. The rural mail carrier is regarded as a matter of necessity. A few years ago the proposition to have the rural mail delivery beyond the limits of the cities would have been regarded as Utopian and to that all farmers were entitled to the delivery of mail daily would have been regarded as the dream of a visionary. Now the free rural mail is looked upon so much as a necessity that the beneficiaries upon it so much as a necessity that they would that they even man to get along without it.

It is a subject for study in one of the rural mail delivery. Or it suggests it and that is the fact of friendship and sympathy between the carrier and the people that serves as the servant of the federal government. When that spirit of friendship does grow between the two, wonderful things may happen. The carrier comes to be that along his route there lives a class of people in the county and the patrons of the route are so that they are fortunate in having for their carrier the most accomplished man in the service. How it makes the work when there is a carrier to cultivate that feeling and to try to do it along that it may be.

Frank Hall of Decatur is carrier of route No. 1 out of Decatur and is ready to swear that the people

of his work and help him out a little. They got up a subscription—an old-fashioned donation party and contributed to the cause in a way that has made a lasting impression on the Commodore. The contributions when listed have a homely sound but when corn in small lots is selling at fifty cents a bushel and oats at forty cents per bushel there is nothing that would appeal to the heart of the rural carrier more strongly than the donation of a few bushels of corn. When there are the patrons of rural route 1 presented the Commodore with a donation he was ready to fall on their neck and call them blessed.

When he gained their good will he gained 38 bushels of corn, 38 bushels of oats, 5 bales of hay, 3 bushels of apples, 2 bushels of potatoes, half a dozen chickens, 48 pounds of lard, 5 pounds of butter, 1 gallon of pickles, 2 gallons of sorghum and three dollars in cash.

There is some excuse for the high opinion that Commodore Hall has of the people living along Route 1. In these days of electric cars, automobiles, etc., a man would be regarded as mildly bugs if he started out to drive ten thousand miles in a wagon. Yet that is what a year's work means for Route 1 out of Decatur. To make that trip every day in the year except Sundays and holidays is the actual distance traveled is 3500 miles. When there are registered packages to be delivered and the carriers must be signed the travel is increased because the carrier then goes to the door of the patron while the mail box is often a quarter



FRANK M. HALL.
Better Known as "Commodore" or "Shorty."

along his route are the best ever and he would not voluntarily change routes. It is several miles longer than any other. He will not go the extra miles to the privilege of staying where he is and if it was not for the patrons on his route he might point to the fact that he has the record for the fastest time ever made out of Decatur by a rural mail carrier and where such possibilities exist the length of the route in miles cuts up figure—not with the Commodore at any rate.

Originally planned and first served Rural Route 1 was twenty-six miles long. Now it is thirty and a half miles long. Of this distance twenty-four and a half miles is over dirt roads and six miles over paved streets and gravel roads. Commodore Hall's best time over the full thirty and a half miles is three hours and fifty minutes and that he has served 110 houses. There are 111 families on his route and all told there are between 550 and 600 persons who enjoy the advantages of the rural mail delivery.

There are not a few farmers along that route who believe that they are served as faithfully and expeditiously as it is possible for any one to do. They show their appreciation in a substantial way and more words don't go. With the warm-hearted farmer words are looked upon as cheap but they know that it takes money to buy horse feed and the carrier can't get around and feed his horse well for the fact that the Commodore was starving his horse, but they felt that they would like to show their appreciation

of a mile from the house. Just north of the city was washed out and for a long time it was necessary to take a round about way to get over Route 1. The loss of that bridge adds five miles a day to the travel over the route. Commodore Hall claims, and the records will show if he is right, that there is more mail delivered on his route than any rural route out of Decatur. His route is the longest and yet he says that his average trip is the fastest.

The Commodore in addition to being a man of nautical skill is likewise a first-class fisherman. He has been counted for his speed in getting over these thirty miles. Before the reporter had finished his pumping process he had drawn from the Commodore the fact that he had a bass, a muskie, a ten-pounder of bass, blue, and a muskie. He offers an apology for that however, by saying that he was called from the city and was unable to be here so he must be forgiven. Thus far he has not met it at home this year and his serious intention is to make amends for his seeming neglect of the game last year and miss none. Perhaps that is the secret of his speed in delivering mail. He can't resist a bait game.

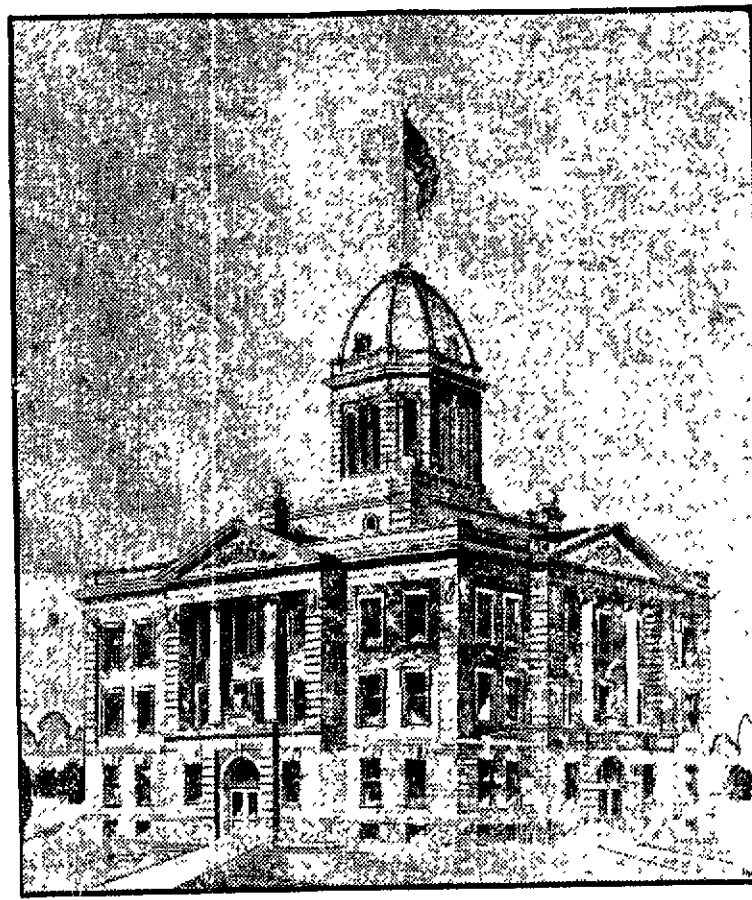
There are many existing between Commodore Hall and the patrons on Route No. 1 is no exception to the rule. On all of the routes the carriers and their patrons are on most friendly terms. There are many instances of concerted action in expressions of appreciation as well as individual cases of giving the carriers presents.

Officers will be elected. A night session will be held at 8 p. m. The new officers will be installed and Capt. I. P. Runney of Chicago will give an address and the meeting will be followed by a smoker. Two of the officers of the association are Decatur men. They are the secretary, George Beyer, and the treasurer, H. L. Baldwin. It is expected that the attendance this year will be large. The national grain dealers' meeting will be held at Milwaukee June 22. A number from Decatur will attend.

Fads for Smart Girls. The smart girls of today have a new way of greeting you. It is quite in accord with their picturesque, charmingly feminine, quaint gowns. They never think of shaking hands with you in their own homes in the conventional old-fashioned way. They put their hands and their manner of putting their little hands into yours assures you a hearty welcome.

The superstitious girl has a substitute for the lucky penny and the way is the eye of the peacock. The girl who heretofore has been associated only with ill luck. In place of her lucky penny she carries a peacock's eye mounted in glass. Woman's Home Companion.

MOULTRIE COUNTY'S NEW COURT HOUSE.



The above cut is made from the architect's plans of the new Moultrie county court house. It gives a fair idea of its shape and size but does not do full justice to its beauty. When completed it will be one of the most handsome public buildings in central Illinois.

As will be observed it will be three stories with a basement. On the first floor will be offices for the sheriff, state's attorney, master in chancery, superintendent of schools, coroner and surveyor, a room for the supervisors and grand jury and a ladies waiting room. On the second floor will be offices for the circuit and county clerks, treasurer and county judge. On the third floor will be the court room, law library, jury, witness and consultation rooms. The estimated cost of the building is about \$65,000 besides the cost of furniture and heating plant.

One of Our Infant Industries

Patent Curtain Rod Made Here Has Jumped Into Instant Popularity With The Trade.

Decatur is known as quite a manufacturing center. Farm machinery and other big things are made here, but as well it is a place where little things are made on an extensive scale. There are a number of small articles which are manufactured in Decatur and which have become known and have been put in use throughout the country. There is a comparatively new enterprise in the city which is making a small article, but which has built up a trade during the past few months sufficient to swamp the capacity of the plant and to give it promise of being another large industry. This is being known as the Dixie Manufacturing company, engaged in making the Dixie curtain pole, a patent arrangement for hanging curtains.

Makes It Easy. Curtain poles are necessary pieces of furniture in every home where there is any pretense of the ordinary comforts, but there is nothing harder to do properly than to hang a curtain and make it look well. The patent curtain pole is one which is easily adjusted. It is using an ordinary curtain pole with pins or rings. The patent rod is made of metal and is finished. It is a hollow metal rod with a slit at the bottom and inside of this metal case there is a wooden rod. The wooden rod is removed, the wooden rod pulled out, the curtain put over it and it is then put back in the metal tube. The curtain hangs through the opening, leaving the ornamental rod at the bottom. It is necessary to wash the curtain it is easily and quickly removed and put back again.

Fits Any Window. Besides the rod is made in three pieces which telescope so that it can fit in a moment be adjusted to a window of any size. The rods are also made of various weights so that they are suited for the lightest lace curtains or the heaviest portieres. The patent rod is not only easy to adjust but it is in appearance more neat and ornamental at a window and the curtains do not catch the dust as in the old style and the rods are easily kept clean.

The factory of the company is located on Wabash avenue in a brick building and its capacity has recently been increased. Six gross a day of the rods was the rate at which they have been turned out but with the added machinery they will be made at the rate of ten gross a day. The manner of making the rods is quite interesting. It is all done in the factory. Heavy sheet steel is used. It comes in the proper width and is put through a machine which rolls it. Another machine makes it perfect in shape and then it goes to a bath where by means of electric batteries it is given either a brass or a copper plating. Another machine puts on the high polish and finally it is dipped in a varnish which gives the finish. The rods are handled a good many times, but they are made rapidly.

The remodeling of the Fenton block is quite a piece of repair work. The second and third floors of the building which have heretofore been used for rooming purposes are both being remodeled for the purpose of storing the work on the third floor is about finished and there is yet a good deal of rebuilding to be done on the second floor. The new building of the National Grocers' association is now under roof and will be ready for occupancy within the next twenty days. The new building of the Central Union Telephone Co. on North street

Simple Newspaper Enterprise.

The New York Times gives the following interesting account of Mr. Grasty's negotiations for the Philadelphia Times plant, for the use of his Baltimore News after the recent fire. Upon reaching New York, the first thing Mr. Grasty did was to find a telephone and call up Adolph S. Ochs, president of the New York Times. A conversation was held, substantially as follows:

"Hello! Is it Mr. Ochs?"
"Yes, who is it?"
"Grasty—the Baltimore News."
"Where are you?"
"In New York."
"Awfully sorry to hear of your loss."
"Everything has been destroyed in Baltimore. How about the Philadelphia Times plant?"
"That plant is at your service."
"What the price?"
"Go and take it, and if you and I can't agree upon a price later, why, we'll leave the matter to a third party."
"Thanks. That's satisfactory. I'll take it."
And thus a \$150,000 newspaper establishment was secured for the use of the Baltimore News in less time than it takes to tell it.

The Fable in Russia.

This fable, dealing with the fall of Witte, the Russian finance minister, is related in a brochure entitled "A Glimpse at the Secrets of Russian Policy," published at Vienna. The czar dreamed the following singular dream: He saw three cows, one fat, one lean and one blind. The next day he sent for the metropolitan, Palladius and begged him to explain the dream, but the metropolitan declined. The czar then sent for Father John of Kronstadt and made the same request of him. Father John stroked his long curly hair with his hand and made reply in the following words: "Your majesty, I understand your dream in this way: The fat cow is the finance minister, the lean one is the Russian people and the blind one—'Don't be afraid, go on,' said the czar. 'The blind cow is your majesty!'"

Pious and Hearty.

The "German Baptist Brethren" who are holding their national convention at Carthage, continue to have fairly good appetites. They eat all their meals in the open air and their sessions are held. One day they consumed twenty dozen bunches of radishes, and the next day forty dozen bunches of lettuce. They consumed fifty gallons of cream the first day of their session. Seventy-five bunches of potatoes disappeared the first three days of their session. One morning ham and eggs constituted the main part of the breakfast bill of fare, and the cooks fried 1,000 pounds of ham and 150 dozens of eggs. Brethren who can eat this way ought to be pious with comparative ease.—Kansas City Journal.

DANVILLE MAN FOUND DEAD

George F. Sandmeyer a Victim of Heart Disease. Danville, June 11—George F. Sandmeyer, manager of the Brookside Coal company and one of the wealthiest men of Danville, was found dead in his bed at his home near here today. Death was due to heart disease.

The new house erected by Miss Kossick on South Webster street next to her home at the corner of Lawrence street is about finished and is one of the prettiest cottages on the street. Robert Rogan has finished a new cottage on Clay street near the corner of Webster street. J. C. Somersfield's new house on West Macon street will be finished in fifteen days. It cost about \$3,000. C. J. Vandevanter's new house on

At Forty Cents a Day

Cost of Living Need Not Exceed That Amount in Decatur.

The cost of living is a problem which confronts everyone, the wealthy who live on an elaborate scale as well as the poor man who must make both ends meet on \$1 a day.

The expense of living now is a cry which comes up from all sides. It is a fact that if one keeps house a dollar does not go nearly as far as it would a few years ago. Buying for a whole family of children is a hard problem for most everything in the eating line is expensive.

While it is true that keeping house is expensive a man who "eats around" in the restaurants can live on a small amount. One person can actually live and live well on \$3 a week in the restaurants. He will not suffer any hunger but will get a plenty. Restaurant eating in Decatur is cheap. The prices charged are low, much more so than in other cities. Traveling men and theatrical people who patronize the restaurants in this city always express surprise at the low prices and say they can not eat in restaurants in any other city in the country as cheaply as in Decatur.

It is easy to spend a good sum in a restaurant if one wants something fancy but good ordinary eating can be bought at a low price and it can be done by ordering cooked whatever is wanted.

For example at breakfast time a man can get a big bowl of oatmeal or any of the breakfast foods for ten cents and with it a big pitcher of cream. Or a plate of big batter cakes with butter and syrup, eggs but eight cents and a cup of coffee three cents more. Only eleven cents and a plenty for anyone's breakfast.

At dinner time there are places where a good square meal of hot meat and vegetables can be bought for fifteen cents or a more elaborate dinner

at the usual price of regular meals, 25 cents. If one prefers to eat a light lunch and is in a hurry at the time, he can get a cup of coffee for 3 cents, a sandwich for the same price and a plate of baked beans for 3 cents. Milk or tea is the same as coffee. A big slice of pie for 4 cents can be eaten instead of a sandwich or berries or shortcake for a few cents more.

It is easy to get a good supper for fifteen cents or a little better one for 20 cents. Coffee, eggs in any style and fresh bread and butter comes to 15 cents even at the present high price of eggs. A very fair piece of beefsteak can be had for 14 cents and fried potatoes for 3 cents. Ham and eggs cost 17 cents, bacon 7 cents and the other meats in about the same proportion.

If the rates charged now in restaurants in this city any man can get plenty to eat and have what he likes at forty cents a day and not go hungry, and will get good service in the bargain, napkins, clean dishes and the same can be secured at that rate if he does not fancy lunch counters.

There is another way to eat cheap in this city but it comes under a little different class than restaurant boarding and that is by patronizing the free lunch counters. Many saloons have free lunches during the forenoon and late in the afternoon. Some of these lunches are very elaborate, hot meats and other hot dishes as well as all kinds of cold things being offered. The patrons of these free lunches are probably the people in the country where any more liberal free lunches are given in drinking places than in this city. It is a fact that a certain class of men make at least one meal each day out of the free lunches.

TALES OF THE STREET.

Some scientists have figured out that in a peacock the energy is consumed by heat and the small balance for light. There's a man in Decatur who believes that although there was a time when he looked upon an incandescent light as being the most perfect thing he had ever seen, he had a room "down town" kept bachelor's quarters. One night when he was out and the room was like a bygone, he made room time in getting out of his clothes and just as he stood in his bare feet ready to shut off the electric light the thought struck him that it would be a good scheme to put that light under the bed clothes near his feet. There was a long cord attached to the globe and the scheme was easy. With his feet warm as toast he fell asleep but his dreams were troubled. He died. Somehow there was a mistake in his transportation and he did not stop in purgatory but went straight to the bottom and when he was introduced to a lot of his old friends at first did not know the head of the matter but the novelty of the situation had worn off he began to be conscious of the fact that the floor was made of red hot iron and that he was in his bare feet, for a second or two he managed to endure it by shifting from one foot to the other but finally he could bear it no longer and he made a break for the door and let out a yell as he did so. The yell was heard all over the city and the next day he was at first puzzled to know whether he had been dreaming or if it was true. The room was full of smoke and the bed was on fire. To be on the safe side he called the fire department and a stream from the chemical engine extinguished the burning bed clothes. That man has never since that time taken a lighted electric lamp to bed with him.

SEEDLESS APPLE TO THE FRONT.

Is Not Hurt By Frost Because It Has No Blossoms.

St. Louis, June 11—Sharing honors with the wireless telegraph, smokeless coal and microbeless water at the World's Fair is an exhibit of seedless apples. The exhibit is a display of seedless oranges and Florida seedless pears, but it remained for Colorado to produce the apple without core. Not only has this fruit an absence of seed, but it is free from all the blossoms. Mr. John P. Spencer, of Grand Junction, is the father of the species and he says that the seedless apple is also immune from the ravages of insects.

He says that the various visitors to the World's Fair are greatly interested in the exhibit, as the culture of the fruit is regarded as an important discovery. Mr. Spencer is now experimenting with seedless apples and seedless pears and he believes that he can develop a seedless Winesap, a seedless Gano and other favorite species. If he is successful it is likely that other fruit growers will follow his example. It is claimed that the seedless apple is not hurt by the frost because it has no blossoms. It is a hardy grower and thrives abundantly in the Colorado climate. Mr. Spencer says that he will recommend it to all orchardists.

The Spencer display is made in the Colorado exhibit in the Palace of Horticulture. Several bushels of the fruit are in cold storage and the supply is constantly kept fresh.

LILY AND ROSE MARRIED

Justice Lord Performs Ceremony and Groves Assurance in Comment.

A WEDDING FAMED IN SONG. New London, Conn., June 11—The Lily and the Rose" were married today by Justice Reuben Lord. "We want to get married," hummed the bride, "and we want to be married in song." Blossom walked into the justice's office. "O, her name now is Lily Blossom and mine—Well, I'm Jack Rose. How much do you want?" "Twenty dollars," murmured Justice Lord. "And where does the bride come from?" "From Kansas, New Rapids, Kansas," said the bride.

"From Kansas, and with such a pretty name," whispered the justice a most inaudibly to himself. "Sir," Miss Lily Blossom said, "I came to be married not to a justice, but to a man. I'm 20, a spinster by occupation," she added, "for I understand your law requires all this information."

"Ad—[I'm a business man of the law," said Jack Rose, proudly. "The Lily and the Rose, about which I have heard so much in song," quipped the justice, "and the Lily into Rose."

"This a great pity the sun should not shine upon such a union of flowers," said Justice Lord, "and I shall give you a handful of new bills as a memento of this day."

"We're satisfied to have our ceremony performed by you, Mr. Lord," declared Mr. Rose. "The sun will shine later."

Together the two Roses left St. Paul, New York, going thence to St. Paul. Charles S. Bathe has sold his share in the firm in Lowe township to J. H. Harmon for \$127.50 per acre and serves this year's crop. Mr. Bathe has not decided where he will locate. Sullivan Herald.

Ferguson next door west of W. H. Starr residence, will be modeled by the Starrs and made into a separate house to rent. Frank Plummer has just a paw on his residence on South Webster street and has made some other improvements. New York, June 11—The "Brass" derby at a mile and half with added money was won by Harry Hays in last year's car, a four-cylinder. The Southern States race track

THE MIDDLE SHOE STORE
Decatur, Ill.

